

**BOXTED PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 14 MAY 2025 AT 730PM IN BOXTED VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Members – Councillors Jamie Seakens (Chair), Arabella Brentnall, James Collitt, Amin Dedhar, Jonathan Hunt, Angela Mclauchlan, Gene Pugh, Lee Smith and David Taplin.

Karen Thompson – Clerk

**ALSO** No members of the public were in attendance.

**PRESENT**

**25/65 Election of New Chair of the Parish Council for May 25 until May 26.**

Cllr Seakens was elected as the Chair of Boxted Council for the period May 25 to May 26.

**25/66 Election of Vice-chair of the Parish Council for May 25 until May 26**

Cllr Hunt was elected as the Vice-chair of Boxted Council for the period May 25 to May 26.

**25/67 Chair to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office of the Chair.** This was signed.

**25/68 Welcome and noting apologies.** Jamie Seakens welcomed everyone.

**25/69 Declaration of Interests** – None were declared.

**25/70 Public Participation Session.** There were no members of the public present, they had left after the Annual Parish Meeting of residents held immediately before this meeting.

**25/71 To approve the use of General Power of Competence (see attached paper).** This was approved.

**25/72 Minutes of the last meetings of the Council held on 9 April 2025.**

Councillors are asked to agree the draft minutes of the last meeting as a true and accurate account of the proceedings (see attached). These were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

**25/73 Colchester City Council (CCC) and Essex County Council (ECC).**

To receive the verbal reports of City Councillors and County Councillor. There were no councillors present.

**25/74 Planning Applications**

**.1 To consider the following planning applications and any other applications arriving after the date the agenda is published:**

<a href="#">250796</a>	11/04/2025	Lions Farm, Langham Lane	Landscape and highways documents - Application for approval of details reserved by condition 5 of application 240117
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The council decided not to enter any comment on the planning portal.

<a href="#">250741</a>	03/04/2025	21 Songers Cottages	Single storey rear extension for disabled adaptation to include bedroom and bathroom
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The council decided not to enter any comment on the planning portal.

**.2 Decisions** - Decisions made by Colchester City Council were noted.

**.3 Appeals** – None

**.4 Colchester Local Plan further decision**

To note proposal to put the draft Colchester Local Housing Plan out to public consultation ahead of the required infrastructure report was refused. The known timetable remains late 2025 for consultation. This was noted and the meeting resolved to challenge Colchester Council on its assertion that Boxted is a sustainable location.

**25/75 Parish Council Finance**

**.1 To note that the next the Parish Council Financial Report will be presented at the June meeting – bank and cards statements are attached for scrutiny.** This was noted.

**.2 To approve for payment the invoices presented.**

**Parish Council**

Gross Pay all employees (inc NI, PAYE, Pensions)

3008.21

Clerks expenses	84.10
Green bins	80.34
Cloudy IT licenses	109.32
Moser Groundcare	1,213.20
Hall room hire	22.00
A&D Contracting 50% of quote	2290.16
Colchester Council - Dog bin contract for 25/26	651.30
Refund Scott re green planting	128.84
Defib pad RBL	82.80
Soil	79.98
Plants	33.94
Plants	35.55
Card fees	6.00
Wave Anglian Water	284.60
<b>Village Hall</b>	
Michelle Gourlay Cleaning	459.00
A & D Contracting – Fence deposit	2124.24
A&D Contracting – Gatepost replacement	288.00
Miele part reimburses to M Gourlay	54.39

**25/76 Boxted Bridge**

**To note the ECC Development & Regulation Committee Meeting to consider the planning application to replace Boxted Bridge have deferred their decision until more information is available.** This was noted and the meeting recognised the councillors of the ECC Development & Regulation Committee had recognised the unique situation of the Boxted Bridge and were seeking the right information.

**25/77 Royal British Legion**

**To note the proposed/agreed sale of the Royal British Legion building.** This was noted and councillors were content to see how the situation develops.

**25/78 Annual Parish Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**To note the topics raised in the Annual Parish Meeting held immediately before this meeting.** Residents attending the Annual Parish Meeting, held immediately before this meeting, had asked questions on the status of the Colchester Draft Local Plan, the likelihood of an allocation of up to 150 homes in the village and the inability of the sewage works to cope currently, poor and unreliable bus service, short notice road closures and poor Highways communication, poor mobile phone signal, the switch to digital home phones and the risks of relying on the electricity network for vulnerable people.

**25/79 Recreation Ground**

- .1 **To note the injury sustained on the mound caused by a large rabbit hole.** The council resolved that Cllr Smith would investigate the advice on reducing the rabbit population in public spaces and that the council would replace the fencing between the recreation ground and the abandoned land before Songers Cottage.
- .2 **To consider the purchase of a bleed kit and wall mounted box (£250).** This was agreed in principle, also the council would look at what the advice is for installing a publicly available bleed kit and to see if the cabinet can be registered like the defibrillator system.

**25/80 Clerk's Report**

- .1 **To receive the clerks report including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and note progress to date on the following (full report - see attachment).** The clerk reported correspondence about the rearrangement of the path by cyclist to create bumps and dips. The council resolved to purchase uneven ground signage.

The council also resolved to clean up the phone box.

**25/81 Items for the next meeting agenda**

**The following items are planned for the next meeting agenda:**

- Presentation by Gigaclear about the fibre programme for Boxted
- Reducing the rabbit population
- External Audit submission
- Review of Standing orders, Fin regs, Asset register and Risk Register

**25/82**

**Date of Next Meeting – The proposed date of the next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025 in the Village Hall. Delegated authority being granted to the Clerk with authorisation from the Chair for emergency and time critical issues. The next meeting date was agreed.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signed by \_\_\_\_\_